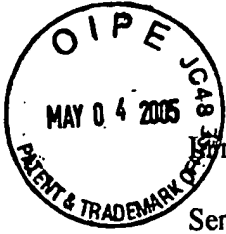


Please Scan for record. *EPW*

DOCKET NO.: HITACHI-0031

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of: FUKASHIRO, et al.

Customer No.: 21,302

Serial No.: 10/728,134

Group Art Unit: 2883

Filed: December 4, 2003

Examiner: HEALY, Brian

For: **OPTICAL SWITCHING APPARATUS AND OPTICAL SWITCHING METHOD**

I, Iris C. Rousey certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On April 29, 2005

*Iris C. Rousey*  
Iris C. Rousey

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RULE 312 AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability dated January 25, 2005, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks/Conclusion** begins on page 9 of this paper.

*approved  
for  
entry  
GKH  
11/29/05*